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IMPOSSIBLE

"You'd better fumigate these bills before you go home. They may be covered with microbes," said the druggist one Saturday evening as he handed a few faded, worn, and soiled silver certificate to his clerk.

"No danger from that source," responded the latter, "a microbe could not live on a drug-clerk's salary."—National Monthly.

Washington News

Senator Bristow of Kansas has issued an interview in which he said that Mr. Taft would not be re-elected.

It is said that the senate committee will report that Senator Isaac Stephenson of Wisconsin is entitled to a seat in the senate in spite of the large expenditures in his behalf.

The annual report of the United States commissioner of internal revenue shows that the receipts for the year were \$322,526,299 and that the production of distilled liquors amounted to 175,402,395 gallons. Beer, ale and similar liquors were produced to the extent of 63,216,851 barrels.

The Associated Press correspondent says: Champ Clark declared he had devoted the last three years chiefly to getting the house democrats together and holding them together, and that after seventeen years of factional fighting the democrats are "united, and by the blessings of God will remain so."

"I did not do it all, by a long shot," he added. "I had lots of help, and every democrat who participated in that troublesome, laudable work deserves his full share of the honor. Where there was once despair in democratic hearts, there is high hope now."

In this way the titular head of the democratic lower house of congress made indirect reply to criticisms of former Presidential Candidate William J. Bryan that the speakership no longer carried the leadership of the house. Mr. Clark referred to the great importance of unity and wisdom among the democrats to draw out voters not belonging to the democratic party.

The Philadelphia North American says that Senator Crane, standpatter of Massachusetts, has written a letter to Theodore Roosevelt offering to support him for presidential nomination.

A Washington correspondent for the Philadelphia North American says: It was announced here that Archbishop John Ireland, of St. Paul, will be created a cardinal of the Catholic church. The announcement came in a private dispatch from Rome, received by the Rev. Dr. Alexander P. Doyle, rector of the Apostolic Mission house here and one of Archbishop Ireland's closest friends.

Representative Littleton of New York wanted "vindication" and the details are told by the Washington correspondent to the Associated Press in this way: Representative Stanley, chairman of the house committee of inquiry into the United States Steel corporation, refused the request of his colleague, Martin W. Littleton of New York that he call the committee together to investigate assaults upon his integrity and standing as a member of the committee. Mr. Stanley, after receiving a formal request from Mr. Littleton to subpoena John A. Hennessy, editor of the New York Press; Henry B. Martin, secretary of the anti-trust league; David Lamar, a New York broker, and others whom he asserted had part in circulating an attack upon him, replied to the New York congressman, stating that he had no jurisdiction in the matter, and that Mr. Littleton's only recourse was on the floor of the house of representatives.

Mr. Stanley's reply was, in fact,

an open declaration of war upon Mr. Littleton, who said that he would first appeal to individual members of the committee to request the issuance of the subpoenas. If this fails, he will then take his fight to the floor of the house and he counts upon the support of many democrats.

"I have no authority, expressed or implied, under the resolution authorizing the investigation of the affairs of the United States Steel corporation," Chairman Stanley said, in his letter to Littleton, "to either summon witnesses or try the issue presented. Had I the power or the authority to be of service in this matter, I should be more than pleased to comply in so personal and delicate a matter."

Chairman Stanley stated further that he had acted with the "greatest deliberation," and that some of his colleagues on the committee agreed with him that the committee had no jurisdiction "to try a question of personal privilege or to expend money for bringing witnesses here to testify not as to the actions of the United States Steel corporation, but to give their reasons for unkind or untrue statements about a member of the committee."

"If Henry B. Martin or another has wronged you," Mr. Stanley's letter continued, "you have the right immediately upon the convening of congress, which is only a few days distant, to bring this matter up on the floor of the house. I feel assured that upon mature consideration of this matter you will choose this method of redress. I would suggest that this method, after all, is preferable for another reason. If these witnesses were called before the committee of which you are a member and in the event you interrogated them, it is possible that persons who do not know you as well as members of this committee do, might suggest, unkindly and unjustly, that the final decision of the committee was effected by its personal preference for a colleague, or by his eloquence and skill in the cross-examination of those who have accused him."

Dr. Herbert Friedenwald, secretary of the American Jewish committee, confirms the charges of Jacob H. Schiff that John Hays Hammond and a syndicate interested with him in Russian concessions are responsible for the failure of the United States government to compel Russia to honor the passports of American citizens.

On the first day of January the seventy-seven United States circuit courts will pass out of existence under the new judiciary code enacted by congress March 3, 1911. The judges of these courts will serve in the district courts, but the offices of the clerks of the circuit courts will be abolished.

Because of an error which credited the late Justice Harlan with being chief justice of the supreme court in the annual report of the Smithsonian institution, 10,000 volumes of the report are to be destroyed.

She—"Oh, professor! I saw such a funny old fossil in the museum today. I thought of you at once."—Judge.

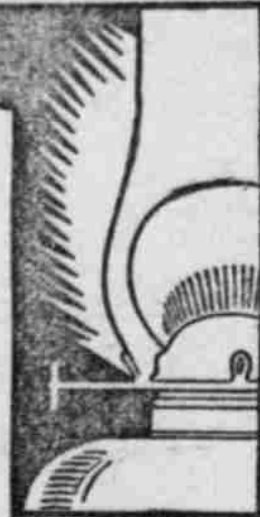
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